

Training Arabic Linguists • Back to the Basics • Guarding MFO Skies

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

May 2004

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Soldiers

Arlington:
America's Sacred Shrine

Hot Topics and
Drill Sergeant Poster
Pullouts



Cover Story — Page 8

Honor Guard Soldier SPC Richard Graham walks a silent tour of duty at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. — SFC Alberto Betancourt

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Here's what you need to know to make your next PCS move easier.



• soldiersmagazine.com



ANYONE who has ever visited Arlington National Cemetery would agree that it leaves a lasting impact — especially on a Soldier. Beth Reece gives us a glimpse of this national treasure in “America’s Sacred Shrine.”

In “Heavyweight Humvees,” Heike Hasenauer chronicles the manufacturing of Humvees and up-armored Humvees and acting Secretary of the Army R.L. Brownlee’s recent visit to the plants where dedicated workers build them.

Steve Harding gives us an inside look at one of our most challenging and little-known schools, the Defense Language Institute, in “Training Arabic Linguists.”

It is said that a Soldier never forgets his or her drill sergeant. SFC Lisa Gregory shows us how these professionals earn the privilege of training our newest Soldiers with a profile of the drill sergeant school at Fort Jackson, S.C.

SFC Rhonda Lawson of the Multinational Force and Observers in Sinai, Egypt, profiles the skilled aviators of that unit in “Guarding MFO Skies.”

Finally, John Randt from the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command shares with us that command’s efforts in supporting the troop rotation for operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.



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Rob Ali
Rob Ali
Editor in Chief



Soldiers The Official U.S. Army Magazine

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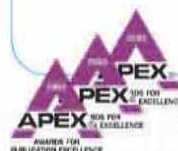
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Beret, Continued

IN response to SFC Luebke's letter about berets, published in the April issue: I am appalled that a senior NCO, regardless if he is in the active or reserve component, is unaware of why we wear the beret. Moreover, it concerns me that he would prefer to complain about something mandated by higher headquarters instead of supporting a command decision.

Here we are almost three years after then-Chief of Staff of the Army GEN Eric K. Shinseki directed that the switch occur and personnel in the field still don't understand.

For starters, here is a link the writer can peruse to understand why we made the change: www.army.mil/features/beret/beret.htm.

Furthermore, perhaps the words of GEN Shinseki from 2001 when he announced the change will help this senior NCO get a clear picture:

"To symbolize the Army's commitment to transforming itself into the Objective Force, the Army will adopt the black beret for wear Armywide. It is not about increasing recruiting; we achieved our recruiting target of 180,000 recruits last year without a beret. It is not about retention; for the second year in a row, we exceeded our re-enlistment goal by a wide margin without a beret. It is not about morale; Soldiers are ready today to go into harm's way. It is about our excellence as Soldiers, our unity as a force and our values as an institution."

What we have to remember is that some Soldiers have worn the beret for years, for example in the special forces community. I believe the senior NCO needs to take that into consideration before calling the beret an "ugly, user-unfriendly piece of wool," and perhaps do what all good NCOs do.

That is: Simply adapt, improvise, and overcome. In doing so, he won't need to complain about shaving his

headgear. Rather, simply execute IAW AR 670-1 to set the proper example.

MSG Herbie P. Teo
via e-mail

Quite a Collector

I JUST finished reading your April issue. As always, it's great, but I have to comment about the "Focus on People" article you wrote about a soldier who has an action figure collection. About two years ago you did a similar story on another Soldier who collected. Both of them had collections numbering about 50 figures.

I think it's great that you've covered this subject, because I'm a collector as well. But my collection has almost 1,000 figures — and I'm not saying that to boast, because there are many people out there with collections not only bigger than mine but much nicer.

Thank you and keep up the good work.

CPT Rick Quinby
via e-mail

Readers Should Write

AS a retired Army chaplain now serving as a prison chaplain, my entire career has required keeping informed of current affairs. Your magazine has helped me do just that.

I especially enjoy the "Legal Forum" department. Mr. Chucala's articles are both educational and functional as they treat real world issues and positively affect Soldiers' quality of life.

Mr. Chucala does not appear to be a member of your staff, but he surely deserves to be one and I hope he continues his effort. I would like to see other readers contribute their specialized knowledge and experience in the same way. Keep up the Great work. You are appreciated.

LTC Harold Axelrod (Ret.)
Silver Spring, Md.

WE appreciate the kind words, as no doubt does Mr. Chucala. You are absolutely right; other readers with backgrounds and expertise in other areas could serve our readers well. If you have an idea for a running column or story, call our senior editor, Heike Hasenauer, at (703) 806-4505, or send your suggestions to soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.

An Error in History

YOUR Army history for February contains an error regarding the 1700s. On page 40, you state that Fort Sackville was recaptured by COL George Rogers Clark's small force of 170 men in 1779 at Vincennes, Ill. The actual capture took place at Vincennes, Ind.

Ralph W. Widener, Jr.
Dallas, Texas

THANKS for bringing the error to our attention. We inadvertently made the mistake during editing of the article.

Photos and Stories

SOLDIERS is always looking for photography and writing submissions from the field that tell your post's or unit's story. If you have stories to contribute, talk to our editors, and check the "Writing and Shooting For Soldiers" guide at www.soldiersmagazine.com.



For links to the Army News Service and Soldiers Radio Live, visit www.army.mil



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Phillipines

CPT Kevin Marsh examines a child in Bargangay San Miguel during the Medical Civic action Program (MEDCAP) while participating in Exercise Balikatan 2004 in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Phillipines.

— Photo by PH2 Felix Garza Jr., USN



◀ Mali

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group, teach mounted infantry tactics to soldiers from Mali's army in Timbuktu, as part of the Pan Sahel Initiative. The initiative is a State Department program to enhance the ability of the northern African countries of Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad to combat arms smuggling, drug trafficking and the movement of transnational terrorists.

— Photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Braly, USAF

▼ Afghanistan

SSG Roman Fontana, a psychological operations Soldier, updates the posters on an information board in the town of Nowabad.

— Photo by SGT Horace Murray





▲ Kosovo

SGT John Eggers of the Minnesota Army National Guard's Company A, 2nd Battalion, 194th Armored Regiment, scans his surroundings while acting as a Humvee gunner during a presence patrol near Camp Margan, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

— Photo by SFC Clinton Wood

► Iraq

SPC Jesse Hammond of the Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Bn., 11th Field Artillery Regt., teaches Iraqi children the Hawaiian "shaka" greeting sign during a mission in Kirkuk.

— Photo by SPC Sean Kimmons





America's Sacred Shrine

Story by Beth Reece

Arlington Va



"Where Valor Proudly Sleeps"

tional Cemetery

Arlington National Cemetery



NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe places a wreath at the space shuttle *Challenger* memorial on the 17th anniversary of the disaster.

families were too poor to have Soldiers' bodies shipped home for burial. The urgent need for land led then-Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton to declare that the property around Arlington House be used as a military graveyard.

Within two months 2,500 Soldiers had been buried at Arlington, and by the war's end a year later, more than 5,000 men had been interred there. The number mounted as bodies were collected and moved to the cemetery from temporary graves. Of all the Civil War dead buried in Arlington Cemetery, about 4,000 are unknown.

The first funerals held at Arlington weren't the refined, honorable affairs they're known to be today. Government-issued headstones were then wooden, and names were often misspelled.

Only upon the deaths of Civil War

survivors did the cemetery begin its ascent as a national shrine.

"Dying generals wanted to be buried near their comrades and in the area of Arlington," Sherlock said.

Today Arlington is the preferred burial site for many of America's veterans. Soldiers from every war — of every age, sex, race and creed — are buried there.

"Many veterans dream of being buried here," said John C. Metzler, the cemetery's superintendent. "These grounds speak of dignity and respect, and the magnitude of the cemetery guarantees that America will never forget service members' sacrifices."

Approximately 25 funerals occur each day at Arlington. Some of these are final farewells to older veterans. More than 50 recent funerals have been for service members killed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Metzler said.

Of the 184 people who died in the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon, 64 are buried in Arlington. Fifty of those victims are located in Section 64, which overlooks the Pentagon's west side where the hijacked plane crashed.

The headstones carry the names of two U.S. presidents, explorers, literary

THE American flag flutters at half-staff more often than not at one of the nation's top tourist spots, and the mournful strains of "Taps" is likely to arouse conflicting emotions in visitors' hearts. Is it sorrow they should feel, or pride for the heroes buried there?

More than 285,000 people have been laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery. Across its rolling hills stand the unadorned headstones of veterans from the Revolutionary War to the current struggle in Iraq.

"The people buried here are remembered every single day. That brings families a lot of comfort," said Tom Sherlock, the cemetery's historian.

The Beginning

Arlington National Cemetery was just a potter's field at its start in May 1864. So bloody was the Civil War that existing cemeteries grew overcrowded, and many



Today Arlington is the preferred burial site for many of America's veterans. Soldiers from every war — of every age, gender, race and creed — are buried there.

figures, astronauts, Supreme Court justices, World War II hero Audie Murphy and big-band leader Glenn Miller.

Section 27 holds the remains of nearly 3,800 former slaves who lived and farmed in Freedman's Village during and after the Civil War. This piece of Arlington land was sectioned off and given to the slaves by the federal government. So as not to be confused with the graves of "heroes," their headstones were marked "citizen" or "civilian."

The Visitors

The cemetery draws 4.5 million visitors each year. Most consider their visits a tour of American history and spend about two hours walking grounds that Metzler deems "magnificent." Tourists commonly see funerals and hear the firing of rifles in the background.

Many are drawn to the gravesite of President John F. Kennedy and the Tomb of the Unknowns. Kennedy's grave is marked by an eternal flame,

Funerals at Arlington National Cemetery are held year-round, regardless of the weather.

an idea conceived by Jacqueline Kennedy to show the world that her husband had also given his life for America.

The Tomb of the Unknowns is guarded around the clock by Soldiers of the Army's 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard). The tomb holds the remains of one unknown each from World War I, WWII and the Korean War.

The crypt for the unknown of the Vietnam War has been left empty since the remains that were originally entombed there were disinterred in 1998, identified as those of Air Force 1st Lt. Michael J. Blassie and then reburied near his family's home. The crypt was rededicated in 1999 to service members lost and missing from all wars.



Soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) escort a deceased service member to his final resting place.

The cemetery's beauty is nurtured by more than 100 federal employees, plus contractors from 14 companies.

Arlington is one of more than 130 national cemeteries. It and the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., are the only two managed by the Army. The rest fall under the Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration.

Though burial space has become limited, Sherlock and Metzler agree there's no need for concern. The rate of in-ground burials has decreased slightly since the 1980 opening of the columbarium complex, which will eventually provide space for up to 100,000 cremated remains.

Metzler walks the cemetery grounds each night. "I enjoy the solemnity, although it's emotional to reflect on the thousands who are buried here and the ones who are

unknown," Metzler said.

On Memorial Day weekend, visitors find American flags at every grave and columbarium niche. Each year Soldiers of the Old Guard spend three hours conducting the "Flags-In" ceremony before the holiday.

The Grounds

Memorials are scattered throughout the cemetery grounds. These symbols pay tribute to the First U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, the Construction Battalion and even those who died on space shuttle *Columbia*. There's also the Confederate Memorial, despite popular belief that Arlington was a burial site for Union Soldiers only.

The cemetery's beauty is nurtured by more than 100 federal employees, plus contractors from 14 companies.

"We have very dedicated employees who love their jobs. The cemetery is internationally known, so everyone takes great pride in working here," Sherlock said.

The grounds-maintenance team prunes more than 8,000 trees, cuts grass, sets and cleans headstones, removes snow and even pitches in on janitorial duties. Workers are often toiling away at dawn to keep out of the way of funerals and tourists.


Hallowed Ground

Visitors to the cemetery are expected to behave respectfully. "Please remember these are hallowed grounds," reads a sign outside the visitor's center.

From Sherlock's view, every American should reflect on the costs of war, and the sacrifices made to protect peace.

Of all the people Sherlock has met in almost 30 years as the cemetery's historian, it's not the visits of American presidents, Prince Charles and Princess Diana, or Mikhail Gorbachev that have impressed him the most.

"What I remember most are the families, especially the children, and the heartbreaking impact that death has on them," Sherlock said. "It gets into your heart and soul."

Arlington National Cemetery opens at 8 a.m. daily. It closes at 7 p.m. April through September, and at 5 p.m. October through March. The customer-service desk at the visitor's center has a directory of gravesites and columbarium niches. For directions, visit www.arlingtoncemetery.org. 

Soldiers of the Army Reserve's 311th Quartermaster Company, a mortuary-affairs unit, help members of the maintenance crew align headstones.



Burial at *Arlington National Cemetery*

BURIAL at Arlington National Cemetery is an exclusive honor, officials said, restricted to honorably discharged service members who fit the following categories:

- Service members who die on active duty, except those on duty for training purposes only;
- Active-duty retirees;
- Reserve retirees age 60 and above who are drawing retired pay at the time of death and who have served a period of active duty for more than training purposes;
- Veterans honorably discharged for medical reasons before Oct. 1, 1949, with a 30 percent or more disability; and
- Veterans who have been awarded the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross, Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star or Purple Heart.

Other categories include:

- Former prisoners of war who died on or after Nov. 30, 1993;
- Widows and widowers of service members who are officially determined missing in action;
- Spouses, widows, widowers, minor children, permanently dependent children and certain unmarried adult children of eligible veterans (when spouses or children die first, service members must agree in writing to be buried at the same site); and
- When certain conditions are met, service members may be buried in the same grave with a close relative already buried at the cemetery.

Individuals eligible for burial may opt for inurnment at the cemetery's columbarium complex. Eligibility for inurnment also extends to honorably discharged veterans (regardless of how many years they served), their spouses and dependent children.

Each columbarium niche has room for two urns and is sealed with a marble plaque that bears the names and years of birth and death of those within.

Burial arrangements, including burial-site selection, are made only upon the death of the individual. Arrangements are typically coordinated between staffs at the deceased's funeral home and the cemetery. Cemetery staff can also help schedule use of the nearby Fort Myer Chapel, as well as a military chaplain when a family minister is not preferred.

Families bear no costs for graves or columbarium niches, for the opening and closing of graves, gravesite care, burial flags or government-issued headstones.

Requests for exception to burial eligibility are accepted only upon a veteran's death. The requests should include the name of the deceased, reason the deceased should be favorably considered, all documentation of military service, the point of contact's day and evening phone numbers, and a completed copy of the cemetery's public disclosure form, which is available by calling (703) 607-8545.

Requests should be faxed to (703) 607-8543 or mailed to Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA 22211-5003. Requests are generally answered by phone within 48 hours.

The cemetery staff can arrange for military funeral honors of enlisted members, commissioned officers and warrant officers at both in-ground burials and inurnment ceremonies. Enlisted honors include pallbearers, a firing party to fire the three-rifle volley and a bugler to play "Taps." Caisson, band and escort troops are added to the honors for commissioned and warrant officers.

Most veterans are entitled to have a U.S. flag draped over their caskets or to accompany their urns.



For information on burial at other national cemeteries, go to the Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration Web site at www.cem.va.gov. — Beth Reece

Heavyweight HUMVEES

Reinforced steel plating and ballistic-resistant windows are among the improvements made to up-armored Humvees.

IN towns throughout northern Indiana, some 1,200 AM General Corp. employees base their livelihoods on Army contracts to build High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicles, known to Soldiers as Humvees.

AM General has produced more than 170,000 Humvees since the vehicle was introduced in 1985, said company spokesman Craig C. MacNab.

Today the work ethic at facilities like the one in Mishawaka, Ind., is much as it was at manufacturing plants across America during World War II. During that conflict U.S. industry

produced a staggering amount of materiel for the war effort, including 350,000 jeeps, acting Army Secretary Les Brownlee told plant officials during visits he made to AM General and O'Gara-Hess & Eisenhardt in Fairfield, Ohio, where the Army's Humvees are armored.

MacNab said Humvee production at AM General increased in February from 25 to 30 Humvees daily to help meet demands for the up-armored versions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Since President George W. Bush's proposed 2005 defense budget earmarked \$150 million for hundreds of up-armored Humvees, AM General

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer



President and Chief Executive Jim Armour has been preparing for an increased workload to ultimately speed delivery of the upgraded Humvees to U.S. troops overseas.

In 2000 the Army awarded a 7-year contract to AM General for the production of some 31,474 Humvees.

When the new vehicles leave the plant in Mishawaka, some of them go to O'Gara-Hess & Eisenhardt, a leading vehicle armoring firm near Cincinnati, where they become armored Humvees, better known as the up-armored, M-1114 version Humvee.

O'Gara-Hess beefed up its



▲ Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee (left) meets with O'Gara-Hess plant employees during a recent visit to the Humvee "up-armoring" plant near Cincinnati.



The 2005 defense budget includes millions of dollars for up-armored Humvees similar to this one.



▲ AM General employees in Mishawaka, Ind., have produced some 170,000 Humvees since the vehicle was introduced in 1985.



▶ Plant workers at AM General build Humvees around the clock, operating the assembly line in shifts. Many employees have relatives and friends serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

doors, steel plating under the cab and several layers of bonded, ballistic-resistant glass to replace zip-up plastic windows, said Jim Bussey, O’Gara-Hess project manager for engineering contracts.

The reinforced steel plating and ballistic-resistant windows provide increased protection from rocket-propelled grenades, small-arms fire, shrapnel, and explosive devices and land mines, Bussey said.

Brownlee thanked workers at the two plants for their service to the nation and commended their resolve to get the best Humvees to the troops as fast as possible.

While some employees at AM General and O’Gara-Hess had family members in Iraq and Afghanistan, many more said they knew someone whose son or daughter was on duty in harm’s way. And the plant workers know only too well that what they’re doing helps save lives.

Henry Ware, an O’Gara-Hess assembly line worker, was reinforcing Humvee underbodies with 130-pound sheets of armor plate. Only six weeks on the line, he’d been a staff sergeant with the Fort Benning, Ga.-based 3rd Ranger Battalion, and he’d spent time in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“I saw unarmored Humvees that were hit by RPGs,” Ware said. “It wasn’t a pretty sight.”

You can imagine the difference in the level of protection offered in a standard Humvee and an up-armored Humvee, considering that a door on an up-armored

▶ (Above) Reinforced windshields prevent bullets from entering the vehicle. (Right) Though a mine turned its engine compartment into a tangled mass of metal, this up-armored Humvee kept its occupants safe.



production of up-armored Humvees this spring, from 80 to 220 per month, Bussey said.

“It takes about 220 man-hours, or about four days, to up-armor a Humvee,” said Tony Crayden, O’Gara-Hess director of contracts and pricing. “We’ve built 4,400 M-1114s since 1994 — 2,300 of them are in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

The M-1114s — which cost about \$150,000 each — are also being used in peacekeeping missions in Somalia, Haiti and the Balkans, he said.

The M-1114 weighs about 2,000 pounds more than the standard Humvee, and includes 200-pound steel-plated

The M-1114 weighs about 2,000 pounds more than the standard Humvee, and includes 200-pound steel-plated doors.

Humvee weighs about 200 pounds, Bussey said. Doors on normal Humvees weigh anywhere from 5 to 30 pounds.

An up-armored Humvee on the factory floor at O'Gara-Hess — the engine compartment a tangled maze of melted metal — attests to the fact that steel reinforcement saves lives. Five Soldiers were riding in that Humvee in Afghanistan when it ran over a land mine, Bussey said. The Soldiers sustained only minor cuts and bruises because the up-armored cab remained totally intact.

If that wasn't reason enough to validate the critical work of employees at the two plants, Brownlee shared a personal Soldier story that underscored the importance of what America's assembly plant workers are doing.

During one of his many visits to wounded Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., Brownlee met with the sole survivor of a grenade attack on four Soldiers in Baghdad.

The Soldier had lost a leg and eye in the attack, Brownlee said. He "flatlined" twice during his evacuation. And because his heart had stopped twice and he was

generally unresponsive, his doctors feared he had suffered brain damage.

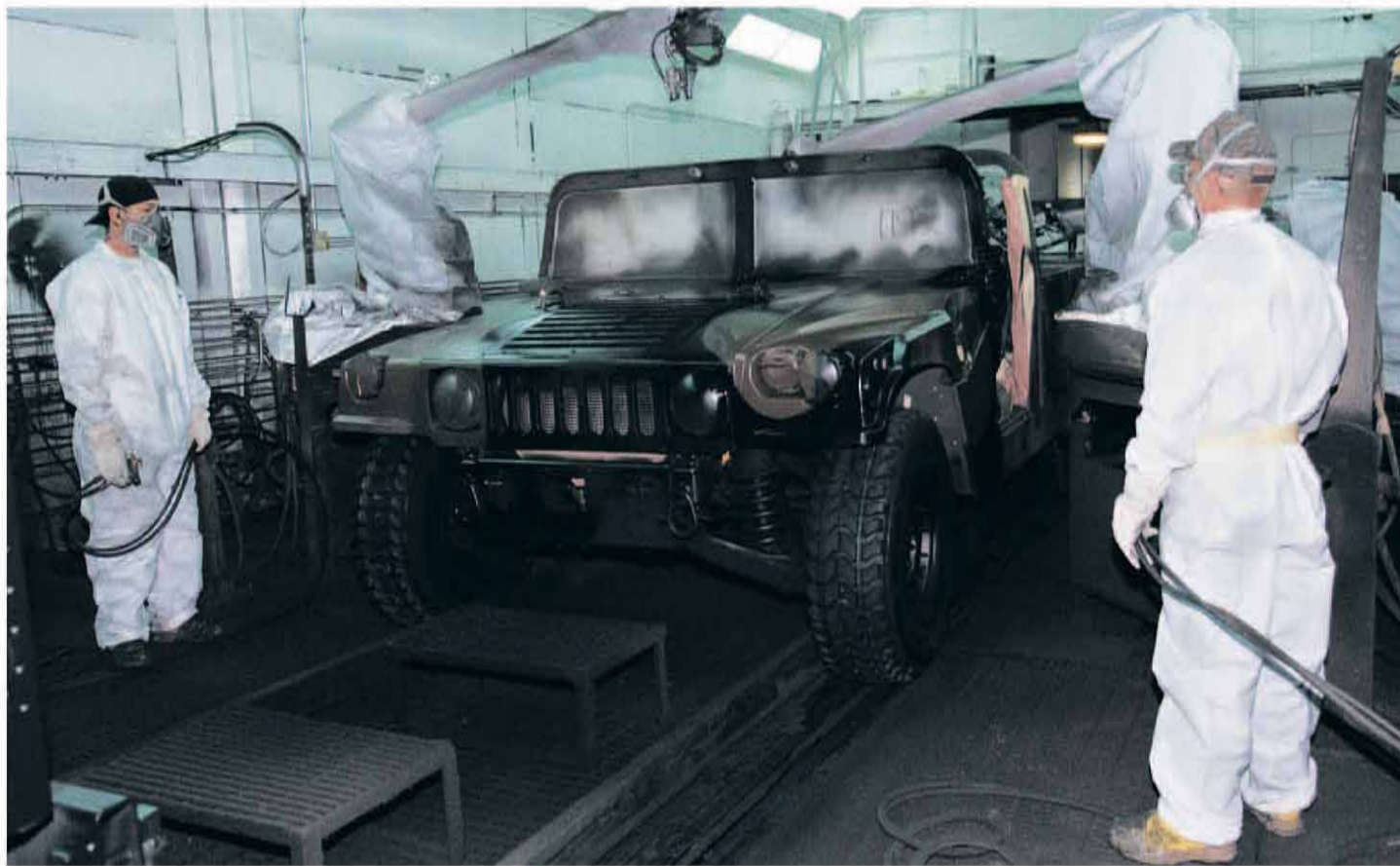
Brownlee spoke to him nonetheless, he said, and held his hand. "His face was covered with bandages," Brownlee said. Just his right eye was exposed.

"There aren't a lot of things you can say to Soldiers like that," Brownlee said. But Brownlee thanked the man for his sacrifice and told him he'd check up on him in a few weeks. As he walked away, he turned to wave goodbye to the young man.

What the Soldier did next shocked Brownlee and a nurse who witnessed what happened: The Soldier sat up and gave Brownlee a perfect salute, he said.

"He lost an eye and a leg, but not his courage," Brownlee said. "That's the kind of Soldier you're supporting today with the up-armored Humvees you're building."

"What the secretary said inspired me. I thought it was great," said Leonard Fugate, a former specialist with the 1st Battalion, 501st Airborne. It says a lot that he took the time to come out here to thank us." 🇺🇸



▲ Finished Humvees are painted at the AM General plant before going to the O'Gara-Hess plant to be up-armored.



Though U.S. forces relied heavily on native Arabic speakers during initial operations in Iraq, greater numbers of U.S. military Arabic linguists — virtually all of them trained at the DLI/FLC — are now operating in the theater.

SSG Kevin P. Bell

Training *Arabic*



Linguists

Story by Steve Harding

WHILE the Army's performance in operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom has repeatedly validated weapon systems and tactics, it's also highlighted a key shortage: that of Soldiers able to read and speak Arabic.

It's a need the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center is working to fill.



A Specialized School

Located at California's historic Presidio of Monterey, some 60 miles south of San Francisco, the



Steve Harding

Computer-based learning techniques are a key part of language training at DLIFLC, as are MP3 players and electronic "chalkboards."

"The Soldiers and others who come into the Arabic program have gone through a very challenging selection process just to get here, and they are truly the best and the brightest," he said.

Among them is SPC Brad Robertson, whose long-time interest in Arabic and his zeal for the program are typical of many students.

"I've always wanted to learn Arabic. When I was in college I did a lot of research on university-level Arabic programs, and DLI kept coming out at the top of the list as the most intensive program in the nation," Robertson said. "It was obviously the fastest and most comprehensive way I could learn the language, and the fact that virtually all the instructors are native speakers really clinched my decision."

Having highly qualified native speakers is key to the program's quality, Payne agreed.

"Our Arabic instructors bring to the classroom a depth of linguistic and cultural knowledge that is unsurpassed, and the team-teaching concept and small class sizes really allow them to pass their knowledge on in a tremendously effective way," he said.

"The fact that our teachers are very supportive is also a big help," said PFC Desiree Vassallo. "The first day in class they told us they would help us in any way they could, and they have. Some of the instructors have been teaching Arabic for decades, and they've seen all the possible mistakes we can make. They treat us with concern and respect, which really helps make this a great experience."

DLIFLC produces linguists for the Department of Defense and, in smaller numbers, for other federal agencies and certain foreign governments.

The DLIFLC teaches 22 languages, which are categorized by their degree of difficulty. The basic course for such Category I languages as French and Italian lasts 25 weeks, while those for Arabic and the other extremely challenging Category IV languages last 63 weeks.

DLIFLC courses are taught by civilians, most of whom are college-educated native speakers of the languages they teach. Military linguists teach the military-specific language skills the students will need in their duty assignments. DLIFLC has about 1,000 faculty and 300 civilian staff members, supported by some 400 military personnel drawn from each of the services.

The departments within DLIFLC's nine resident and continuing-education schools are based on the team-teaching concept, with each team of six instructors handling three sections of

up to 10 students each. The classes are small in comparison to those in civilian schools, and instructors use such high-tech aids as satellite TV and Smart Board electronic "chalkboards" that can access the Internet. Each student is issued an MP3 audio player with which to record and play back key material.



The Best and the Brightest

Students entering the DLIFLC don't get to pick the language they'll study, said Dr. Stephen Payne, the school's senior vice chancellor. That determination is made based on the candidate's scores on the Defense Language Aptitude Battery.

The DLAB indicates each person's relative aptitude for languages, and students are assigned a language based on the scores, Payne said. Individuals with the highest scores, indicating the greatest aptitude, end up in one of the Category IV programs.

Because Arabic is such a challenging language, it takes a special kind of student to tackle it, Payne said.

DLIFLC courses are taught by civilians, most of whom are college-educated native speakers of the languages they teach.

A Comprehensive Program

DLIFLC's Arabic-language program is centered in Middle East I School, known as MAS, and Middle East 2 School, referred to as MBS. At the time of Soldiers' visit there were some 800 students studying Arabic in MAS and MBS. The instruction is identical in each of the Arabic departments.

The schools' mission, according to MAS dean Dr. Christine M. Campbell, is to train students to a basic level of competence in the language, just as new infantrymen or tankers are taught the basic skills their MOSs require. Then, just as combat-arms Soldiers' skills are broadened and improved upon reaching operational units, so are the linguists' skills bettered by "real-world" use.

DLI teaches Modern Standard Arabic, a refined form of the lan-

guage that is spoken throughout the Middle East, Campbell said. Learning MSA gives students the foundation upon which they can then build their skills in the various regional and national dialects of the language.

"When you get to the Middle East, if you speak MSA people will think you are highly educated, because MSA is the language of the Quran and is used by broadcasters throughout the Arabic-speaking world," said Army CPT Robert Hoffman, MAS's operations officer.

"But when you meet people in remote villages, they might not speak

SFC Mitch Frazier



▲ DLIFLC Arabic language students test their skills in the field during exercises held at the former Fort Ord.

▼ Army and Air Force Arabic-language students translate taped interviews under "operational conditions" during an end-of-course exercise.

SFC John Valceanu





▲ Small classes and the use of native speakers as instructors ensure that students get the most out of the classroom experience.

MSA if they haven't been to school," he said. "That's where the 75 hours of training in the Levantine, Egyptian or Iraqi dialects come in."

Because the Arabic students at DLI are being trained to use the language in military or intelligence applications, their training includes "modules" that deal with the vocabularies specific to those disciplines, Hoffman said.

A Comprehensive Process

As with each of the languages taught at DLIFLC, students are introduced to Arabic in phases. The first is "sound and script," an introduction to the alphabet and the sounds of the spoken language.

"They then see things on the computer, listen to the tapes they've downloaded to their MP3 players and get into the reading. When they get into the higher semesters we have more speaking hours for them, because speaking is the hardest skill to master," Hoffman said.

To polish their language skills and stay up to date on the culture, politics and current events of the Arabic-speaking world, students watch Al

Jazeera and other Arabic-language TV networks on each classroom's smart board, said Ousama Akkad, chairman of one of MAS's four Arabic departments.

Students point out that, in addition to being phased and comprehensive, the school's learning process is continually challenging, especially given Arabic's complexity and the course's accelerated pace.

"I took Spanish and German in high school, and compared to Arabic

In addition to being phased and comprehensive, the learning process is continually challenging, especially given Arabic's complexity and the course's accelerated pace.

those languages were both ridiculously easy," said PFC John Martin.

"In our first three weeks at DLIFLC we covered everything that I studied in an 18-week semester of Arabic in college," Robertson added. "You really have to pay attention and stay focused, because each day is full."

"Yes, we keep the students pretty busy," Hoffman said. "A typical day includes at least six hours of class time, as well as physical training, formations and two to three hours of homework a night. In addition, twice a week there are mandatory evening study halls. It makes for a very full and challenging schedule, and the students really have to make an effort to get all the work done to keep up."

Special Attention

Unfortunately, keeping up can be difficult for some students. In fiscal year 2003, for example, 9.2 percent of the Arabic students in MAS were "academically disenrolled" for academic reasons and 20 percent for administrative reasons.

But dropping students from the

program is not something the school's staff members like to do, Campbell said. In fact, if the quality of an individual's work begins to decline, staffers step in immediately to offer help.

"If someone is doing poorly, you can't just say 'listen more' or 'try harder,' you have to find out why the student is having difficulty and then address those issues," she said. "We try to identify the student's strengths and weaknesses, to find out why that person is having difficulties. We then work to bolster positive skills, and we suggest strategies that will allow the student to improve."

A student's poor performance in class may stem from family problems, military discipline issues or even ill health, rather than the language itself, Campbell said. Military leaders, chaplains or other nonacademic counselors provide assistance when students need it.

"The goal for the academic staff and military leaders is the same," Campbell said. "We all want to do everything we can to ensure the students' success in language training."

An Important Skill

For many DLIFLC students, overcoming the challenges of learning Arabic is about more than personal pride or intellectual achievement, Vassallo said.

"Sure, the workload can be exhausting and it's sometimes hard to stay motivated. But we all know how important Arabic is to the Army and the nation, and we want to get it right," she said. "If we make a mistake when we get to the field, it could cost lives. It's that simple."

➤ For many students at DLIFLC, overcoming the challenges of learning Arabic is about more than personal pride or intellectual achievement.



SFC John Valcarenna





▲ A drill sergeant candidate is fitted for his campaign hat before graduation.

◀ Upon arriving for initial entry training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., a new recruit listens intently as drill sergeant SSG Thomas Collison explains what her next mission will be.

Back to the Basics

Story By SFC Lisa Gregory

THE drill sergeant campaign hat is one of the most prestigious and sought-after uniform items in the military inventory, said CSM Scottie Thomas. With the drill sergeant patch, worn by current and former drill sergeants, it signifies that a Soldier has accepted one of the greatest responsibilities in the Army today — turning civilians into Soldiers, added Thomas, the Commandant of the Drill Sergeant School at Fort Jackson, S.C.

"Before we became an Army at war, being a drill sergeant was one of the most sought after positions in the Army," said Thomas. "The number of volunteers who came here was higher before the war, and every NCO had that 'warrior spirit.' Today, NCOs are choosing to take that 'spirit' to the front lines with their units and waiting until they return to come to the school."

The war on terrorism may be keeping some sergeants from pursuing the coveted "brown round" drill sergeant campaign hat, but for others the war has created a new opportunity to make a difference and be a part of training the future force.

"I've waited almost three years to come here for the opportunity to train new recruits," said SFC Leon Casey, a school candidate from the 187th Ordnance Battalion at Fort

Be a Drill Sergeant

Jackson. "My basic-training drill sergeant had a tremendous impact on my life, and because of that, I always knew that this is what I wanted from the military. He set a standard for me to follow, and even today there isn't a pair of shoes in my house that aren't laced left over right. That's the impact I want to make on new Soldiers."

The mission of training tomorrow's Soldiers may appear to be a daunting task to some drill sergeant candidates, but Soldiers like SSG David Jameson say they are ready for the challenge. "I want the opportunity to turn civilians into Soldiers, and I know when I graduate I'll have the tools necessary to do that," said Jameson of the 82nd Airborne Division.

As another candidate explained, the school is not designed to take seasoned NCOs back to basic training, but to get them back to the basics.

"Many of the NCOs who come here rely largely on their own experiences to get things done," said 1SG Harold Williams, the school's deputy commandant. "They will always have that knowledge with them, but here we want them to go back to the basics and learn to 'train to standard,' and then be able to enforce what they've learned."

For drill sergeant candidates, being an NCO is the easy part, explained Williams. Being an instructor responsible for teaching military skills to future Soldiers is the part they need to learn at the school. "The candidates receive the same instruction as initial-entry Soldiers. They receive the instruction in a manner that will help them pass that information on when they become drill sergeants," said Thomas.

The students have to understand that they'll be responsible for teaching the material they've learned to other



▲ A drill sergeant keeps a watchful eye on Soldiers negotiating the Victory Tower at Fort Jackson, S.C.

▶ Drill sergeant SSG John Arnet motivates a new recruit during initial-entry training at Fort Leonard Wood.

Soldiers — Soldiers who may be heading off to the front lines once they've learned it, Thomas added. "The only foundation new recruits have is what they've learned during their initial training."

Because of the immense amount of responsibility being handed over to new drill sergeants, candidates must undergo extensive background checks as part of the drill sergeant qualification process.

"One of the major obstacles in qualifying to come here is the security-clearance process," Thomas said. "Prospective candidates are also assessed by a variety of military



1SG David Hammond

agencies, so I feel comfortable that we're receiving Soldiers who are qualified to be here. They have to be mentally and physically fit for the challenge that lies ahead."

The candidate's day begins with

physical training, followed by a full day of academic training. Every topic is specifically targeted to the basic-training environment. Classes consist of basic rifle marksmanship, drill and ceremony, unarmed combat training and a variety of other basic military skills training. The school's overall goal is to train each candidate to become the trainer, be able to clearly and concisely relay what he's learned to Soldiers.


Drill sergeant candidates also receive stress-management and personal relationship classes to help them in their future roles as mentors. According to Williams, these classes help students understand that each new recruit comes from a different background and some have no military experience."

"Everyone here has their own leadership style, but you learn to appreciate each of them because you can take some of that with you when you leave here for the trail," said drill sergeant candidate SSG Christy Doby, Company A, 1st Bn., 28th Infantry

Regiment at Fort Jackson. "The instruction is great because the instructors here make you pitch the class so you're actually learning and relearning the subject. The training today is real-life."

"The instructors let you make your mistakes here," said Casey, "so you can feel confident when it's your time to train new Soldiers."

The confidence to be a drill sergeant and a mentor to other Soldiers has always been held in high regard, said Thomas. Many seek the position as a stepping stone in their military careers. Others choose the road to drill sergeant school to have their own personal effect on tomorrow's Soldiers.

"If an NCO has the desire to become a drill sergeant, I recommend he do it," said Williams. "It's just another way for him to do his part in the war on terrorism. I remember when I was junior Soldier, the first sergeant always picked the Soldier who wore a drill sergeant patch to conduct the day's training." 



Drill sergeant candidates go back to the basics of military training, including the manual of arms and drill and ceremony.

Basic Qualifications

To qualify as a drill sergeant candidate, applicants must:

- ◆ Be graduates of the Basic NCO Course;
- ◆ Meet the height and weight criteria outlined in AR 600-9;
- ◆ Have a minimum of four years continuous active service;
- ◆ Be able to pass the Army Physical Fitness Test with no alternate events;
- ◆ Have qualified with the M-16A2 within six months of submitting the application for The Drill Sergeant School;
- ◆ Have a minimum GT score of 100 (which may be waived to 95);
- ◆ Must be a staff sergeant or sergeant first class, though a pilot program now accepts sergeants.



For a complete list of requirements for drill sergeant candidates check out https://perscomonline.army.mil/epinf/drill_sergeant.htm or AR 614-200, chapter 8.



Guarding

Story and Photos by
SFC Rhonda M. Lawson

In our technological age, where manufacturers' advertised "new and improved" products continually replace older versions of things that are "tried and true," the Army's UH-1H Iroquois, or "Huey," helicopter is still being flown with confidence.

Aviators with the Multinational Force and Observers in Sinai, Egypt, are proving this every day.

"The Huey has stood the test of time," said CW4 Robert Wagner, MFO Aviation Company senior maintenance officer. "After 50 years in service, it's still truckin' along."

"The Huey is holding up extremely well — that's a testament to its design. More importantly, it's maintained its significance for the service," said Avn. Co. commander MAJ Robert Peden.

"It's been able to perform the mission so well that the Army hasn't been able to find a better aircraft to perform the light-utility helicopter mission," Peden said.

The Huey dates to the mid-1950s, when the Army held a design competition to find a new medical-evacuation helicopter to replace the outdated Bell H-13, which had served the military well during the Korean War.

The Bell Model XH-40 was in a dead heat with the Kaman H-43, but eventually became the helicopter of choice, principally because Bell Helicopter had produced the successful H-13.

Backed by COL Spurgeon Neel, known as

"The Huey is holding up extremely well — that's a testament to its design. More importantly, it's maintained its significance for the service."

the "father of the Huey," the aircraft was many times pushed past its prescribed limits in real-world operations. It saw combat in Vietnam in a variety of roles.

Though initially unarmed the Huey was eventually fitted with door guns and other

weapons, and the UH-1B model became the Army's first dedicated helicopter gunship.

Since its initial procurement the Huey has undergone 13 model changes. It's flown millions of hours in support of various Army missions, cruising at 90 knots and carrying 4,000 pounds of external cargo or 220 cubic feet of internal cargo.

The helicopter's rich history is what attracted

Peden and Wagner to the aircraft.

"I was happy that I went to flight school and did all my initial training on the UH-1," Peden said. "I knew that after a certain period of time the Army would stop using the Huey, and I wanted to fly on it." In Sinai, he's had "an awesome opportunity" to do so, he said.

And Wagner extended his tour in Sinai by a year so he could continue to head the Huey's maintenance team.

"It's been like going back in time and doing what I've done for more than 20 years in the maintenance field as an enlisted Soldier and as a test pilot," he said. "For me, working with the Huey has been like putting on an old and comfortable pair of boots." (Continued on page 30)

SFC Rhonda Lawson is the editor of the Sandpiper, a newspaper for Soldiers deployed with the Multinational Force and Observers in Sinai.

A UH-1H helicopter — commonly known as a Huey — of the MFO Aviation Company lifts off from South Camp, near Sharm el Shiekh in the Sinai.



MFO Skies





Soldiers of the Michigan National Guard's Task Force 1-125 attach a sling load of supplies to a hovering UH-1H.

Under Peden and Wagner's leadership, the MFO's UH-1s log an average of 2,100 hours per year without any major incidents.

The Avn. Co. pilots routinely fly to the MFO's outposts on the eastern border of the Sinai, and they transport members of the MFO's Civilian Observer Unit as they observe, report and verify Israeli and Egyptian treaty compliance.

However, the Avn. Co. also flies medical-evacuation missions for the entire Sinai and conducts resupply missions.

"Pilots come here knowing they're going to fly the UH-1 — an old aircraft not generally in service throughout the Army. And they're proud to fly the aircraft in a specific mission for the MFO," he said.

The oldest Huey in the MFO inventory was built in 1969, Wagner said, and the type has served the MFO continuously since its inception in 1982 with no major incidents or deaths in Sinai.

The Huey's small size is a plus for

The Huey's small size is a plus for the Aviation Company, allowing the aircraft to land at the MFO's many remote sites.

the Avn. Co., allowing the aircraft to land at the MFO's many remote sites, Wagner said.

If there's a downside to having the Huey, he said, it's that the company gets only a few pilots who have experience flying the UH-1. That's because few pilots have the opportunity to train on the type. Since only a handful of installations still have the aircraft in their inventories, even the more experienced pilots have to be retrained when they arrive in Sinai.

WO1 Lori Hemmie, who's been with the Avn. Co. only a few months, is one of the fortunate pilots who trained on the Huey in flight school.

While she said she valued the

opportunity to fly it, she admitted it can be a double-edged sword.

"I'm not getting experience on the advanced systems that are on the other helicopters, but I'm getting much more of the 'pilotage,'" she said. "You don't have a lot of backup to rely on. In that respect, I'm at an advantage — I gain a lot more confidence in myself instead of just confidence in the helicopter."

"It's the old 'stick and rudder' with the UH-1," Wagner added. "It doesn't have any advanced mission equipment or systems for navigation."

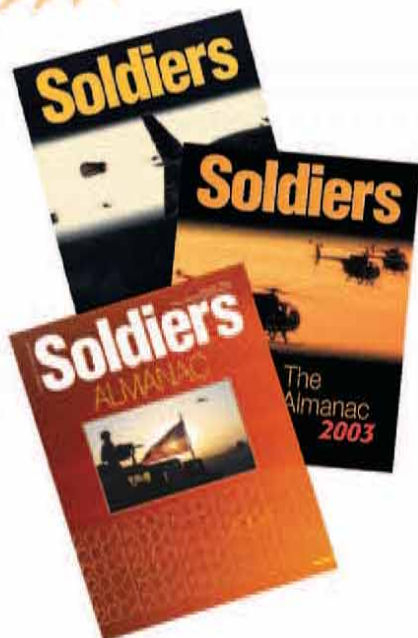
Eventually, Wagner said, the UH-60 will replace the UH-1, although it's uncertain when the Huey's flying days will end in Sinai with the MFO. ■

Editor's note: Historical information for this article was taken from "The Bell Helicopter Textron Story: Changing the Way the World Flies," by David A. Brown.



IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE IN SOLDIERS' MOST POPULAR ISSUE

Soldiers is planning the January 2005 Almanac and wants your images for the "This is Our Army" section. Send us your candid photos of the Army family at work or play.



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▶ DONATIONS FROM ROMANIA

Kabul, Afghanistan

SOLDIERS from the Coalition Joint Task Force Phoenix conduct inventory on the crates of donations arriving at Kabul International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan. The nearly 90 tons of ammunition and arms donated by the Romanian government will be used by the Afghan National Army for training, as well as real-world missions.

SSG Robert Ramon

ADVANCED TRAINING FOR RESERVE NCOS ▶

Fort Jackson, S.C.

TO bring its NCOs in line with mission and responsibility changes, the Army Reserve's 81st Regional Readiness Command held an inaugural NCO Advanced Leadership Training course (NCO ALT) at Fort Jackson, S.C. More than 100 NCOs from 81st RRC units attended the five-day course.

A private contractor provided the instructors, most of whom are retired military personnel.

"The classes help the NCOs understand training and doctrine," said COL Joe Leigh (Ret.), an instructor. "They also help identify mission-essential tasks and other critical tasks for platoons, squads and individual Soldiers."

SFC Camelia Pressley, a course attendee from the 535th Military Police

Bn. in Raleigh, N.C., said: "The classes were very challenging. It was an informative and uplifting experience."

The course was not all classroom work. The participants had their mettle tested on the first day by "attacking" Fort Jackson's Victory Tower. This 45-foot tower, equipped with rappelling lanes and three different rope bridges, presented one of the biggest challenges the Soldiers would face for the remainder of the course.

For many of the Reservists, training of this kind is rare because of where they are located. SSG Derrick Durham, of the 160th MP Bn. and the 81st RRC NCO of the Year, said: "I haven't done anything like this since basic training. The rappelling was my favorite portion



of the course."

"Initially I thought it would be too much information for them, but they absorbed it like a sponge," Leigh said.

— MSG Scotty Johnson, 81st RRC PAO

ADOPT A SOLDIER PROGRAM ▶

St. Louis, Mo.

THE Middle East is generally dry and barren, and can be an arduous area for American Soldiers. Yet one Soldier has used her experiences to make a difference in the lives of those currently deployed.

SGT Jennifer McLaughlin, flight records NCO for Human Resources Command's Officer Personnel Management Directorate, was deployed with the 657th Transportation Detachment as a cargo handler at a remote airfield in Afghanistan.

Soldiers stationed in remote areas rely on friends and family members to send supplies that are often taken for granted, such as shampoo and shaving cream.

"People tell you that they think about you all the time. When you receive something tangible, that makes their concern seem real," McLaughlin said.

After six months, McLaughlin returned to the U.S. determined to develop a plan that would assist other Soldiers in getting much-needed supplies.

She presented the "Adopt A Soldier" concept to her supervisor, COL Laurie Brasher, who briefed it to Human Resources Command CSM Ray Hemmingway. A command campaign was launched to promote the new program.

During a visit to Germany, Hemmingway collected names and addresses of 62 deployed Soldiers. HRC-St. Louis directors were given the names of those who wanted to be sponsored. Within three days, all 62 had sponsors.

"Adopt A Soldier" is an ongoing program that HRC-St. Louis is committed to supporting for the duration of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

— CPT Monica Griffin, HRC-St. Louis



◀ FIELD EXPEDIENT ARMOR

Baghdad, Iraq

CPT Darryl M. Butler, a facility engineer for Task Force 1st Armored Division's 354th Civil Affairs Brigade, an Army Reserve unit from Riverdale, Md., is the type of leader who is never satisfied with equipment that is simply adequate.

Butler is currently working with an ever-growing team of Iraqi engineers — including metal workers, sprayers and welders — to piece together his new brainchild, the Modified Protection for un-Armored Humvees.

More than 900 pounds of steel in a 25-piece kit make up what has been dubbed "The Butler Mobile," a custom, modular armor-plating system designed to be an addition to soft-top Humvees.

The kit includes door pieces, floor plates and a bolt-on "fortress" for the rear and roof, all of which put a layer of heavy steel between Soldiers and whatever the enemy can throw at them, Butler said.

The entire project fits right into the scheme of what civil-affairs Soldiers are trying to accomplish in Iraq — protecting Soldiers and employing Iraqis to help contribute to improvement of life and economic growth in the area.

"This was done out of necessity," Butler said. "With the number of coalition vehicles hit by improvised explosive devices, we had the opportunity to do something to prevent Soldiers from being hurt or killed, and this thing does work."

— SPC Chad D. Wilkerson, 372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

SGT Jon Soucy is a member of the Army Reserve's Maryland-based 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment. The unit was one of several that deployed to Kosovo in support of Task Force Falcon, a NATO-led peacekeeping operation. Here, Soucy shares some of the photos he took during the deployment. 🇷🇸



SPCs Michael Ginery (left) and Thomas McElhattan of Co. C, 1st Bn., 112th Inf. Regt., enter a mock doorway during a MOUT exercise at Falcon Three Range.





SPC Nathan Burr of Co. C, 1st Bn., 110th Inf. Regt., dashes for cover during a stalking and concealment exercise at Falcon Four Range.





(Clockwise, from above left.)

- ▶ A Kosovar woman stands in front of a school in Ponesh, where Task Force Falcon Soldiers were donating supplies.
- ▶ SSG Floyd Cotheman of Co. C, 1st Bn., 112th Inf. Regt., helps a Kosovar boy with his new coat. The coat was one of many donated by family members and friends of the Soldiers in the unit.
- ▶ COL Bruce Tancek from Task Force Medical Falcon assists local Kosovar dentists during a medical and dental civilian-assistance program in Strezovoce.
- ▶ A Kosovar woman pushes her belongings down a street in the center of the town of Ponesh.
- ▶ Holding on to a coloring book, a young Kosovar girl pockets a box of crayons given to her by a Task Force Falcon Soldier.



Beyond its role in defense of the nation, the Army and its Soldiers have contributed to medicine, technology, exploration, engineering and science. The milestones listed in this monthly chronology offer only a small glimpse of that proud story of selfless service. It is also your story.

For more about Army history, go to www.ArmyHistoryFnd.org and www.Army.mil/cmh.

1600s

1607 — Colonists at Jamestown, Va., organize the first militia in North America and begin constructing a fort following a surprise attack on the settlement by Powhatan Indians, May 28.

1637 — The first joint military campaign by American colonial militia troops takes place in New England, when units from Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth and Connecticut conduct a coordinated attack on May 26 against the Pequot Indians on the Mystic River.



1778

1700s

1776 — Patriot militias led by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold attack the British garrison at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., on May 10. The fort is captured without a shot being fired.

1778 — On May 5 Congress commissions German Baron Frederick W. A. Von Steuben a major general and appoints him to be the Continental Army's inspector general. Von Steuben has spent the winter as a volunteer leading the Army's first professional training in formal drill and tactics.

1781 — American forces lead by Henry Lee, Francis Marion and Charles Sumter capture four Tory and British positions in South Carolina. At Fort Mott, flaming arrows are used to force the surrender.

1783 — On May 3 GEN George Washington presents the first Army decorations. The heart-shaped Badge of Merit, made of purple cloth, goes to to SGTs Elijah Churchill and William Brown of the Continental Army for honorable service. A third badge is later given to SGT Daniel Bissell. These are the only badges awarded, but they form the basis for the 1932 creation of the Purple Heart medal.

1800s

1804 — On May 21 the Army's Corps of Discovery, under CPT Meriwether Lewis and LT William Clark, sets off up the Missouri River from St. Charles, Mo., beginning its two-year exploration of the Louisiana Territory.

1812 — On May 14 Congress authorizes establishment of the Army Ordnance Department, making this the birthday of the Ordnance Corps.

1813 — During the May 29 battle of Sackett's Harbor, N.Y., Army regulars and militiamen successfully turn back a British attempt to capture the critical American base at the harbor.



1824 — The first Army professional school, the Artillery School of Practice, is established May 24 at Fortress Monroe, Va. New artillery officers who graduate from West Point are sent to the school before going on to their regiments.



MAY 7, 1945

By COL Raymond K. Bluhm Jr. (Ret.)

An officer of the Army History Foundation and co-author of "The Soldier's Guide" and "The Army."

1900s

1846 — Congress establishes the 2nd Regiment of Dragoons on May 23. For a short period, 1843-44, the unit is converted to a rifle regiment, then remounted as the 2nd Dragoons. The unit exists today as the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

1863 — COL Benjamin Grierson and three regiments of Union cavalry reach Mobile, Ala., May 2, ending a 600-mile, three-state sweep behind Confederate lines.

1864 — For two days, May 5-6, the Army of the Potomac battles the Army of Northern Virginia in a thickly wooded area north of Richmond in what's known as The Wilderness Campaign. Both sides lose heavily, but the Union Army continues to press southward.

1881 — An Army scientific expedition of 24 men under LT Adolphus W. Greely departs May 7 to explore the Arctic. The men become stranded when supply ships fail to reach them. Greely and six survivors are finally rescued in 1884.

1906 — The Moro Insurrection. The Army begins the first of three Army campaigns on Jolo Island, Philippines, to quell radical Muslim tribesmen resisting American presence.

1918 — In the first major American offensive of World War I, the 1st Division's 18th and 26th Infantry regiments capture the town of Cantigny, France, May 28.

1942 — On May 14 the Women's Army Corps, formerly the Woman's Army Auxiliary Corps, is established.

1944 — In Italy, the reinforced Fifth Army breaks out of the Anzio beachhead and attacks the German Gustav line.

1945 — The German High Command meets with Allied representatives at a schoolhouse in Reims, France, on May 7 and surrenders all German forces.

1950 — On May 5 Congress enacts the Uniform Code of Military Justice, replacing the Articles of War as the judicial regulations of the armed forces.

1952 — In Korea, Eighth U.S. Army launches counterattacks to halt the Chinese communist advance.

1967 — The Army adopts the M-14 rifle to replace the M-1, the Browning automatic rifle and M-1 carbine.

1966 — The first major Army combat unit, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, arrives in South Vietnam.

1967 — North Korean raiders blow up an Army barracks just south of the DMZ, killing several soldiers and wounding others.



1980 — On May 28 Cadet Andrea Hollen becomes the first female graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

2000s

2002 — In Afghanistan, American and British forces search for Taliban fighters in Operation SNIPE.

2003 — Thomas E. White steps down May 9 as the 18th secretary of the Army after serving approximately two years in the position.





Furry Friends

FINDING A PET FOR YOUR LIFESTYLE ◀

PETS are known for their loyalty and unconditional friendship, so falling in love with one can be easy. But before you adopt a new companion, consider the challenge. Ask yourself why you want a pet, and remember that adoption may become a 10- to 20-year commitment.

Soldiers must consider a variety of things when choosing pets. They should be familiar with animal restrictions set by post commanders or civilian landlords. And Soldiers who are planning to move overseas should also be aware of vaccination requirements and animal regulations for foreign countries.

Frequent moves can be hard on pets, and Soldiers are responsible for the costs of moving them. Movement can take months of planning, especially for overseas assignments. Many countries require that pets be quarantined for 30 to 120 days upon arrival, and this can cost hundreds or thousands of dollars.

If you're thinking about welcoming a new companion into your household, contact the veterinary treatment facility on your installation for advice.

Also ask yourself:

- ◈ What kind of pet and what breed suits your lifestyle?
- ◈ Do you have time for a pet?
- ◈ Can you afford a pet?
- ◈ Are you prepared to deal with special problems that a pet can cause, such as flea infestations, damaged furniture and accidents made by animals who aren't yet housetrained?
- ◈ Is it a good time for you to adopt a pet?
- ◈ Are your living arrangements suitable for the animal you have in mind?
- ◈ Do you know who will care for your pet while you're away on vacation?
- ◈ Will you be a responsible pet owner?
- ◈ Are you prepared to keep and care for the pet for his or her entire lifetime?

TRIBUTE TO THE TROOPS

REMEMBER veterans by tuning into the **National Memorial Day Concert May 30 from 8 to 9:30 p.m. EST.**

The concert will broadcast live from the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol on **PBS** and overseas on the **American Forces Radio and Television Network.**

The program will be a mix of musical performances, readings and archival footage. It will feature a special segment on the 60th anniversary of D-Day; a tribute to the troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, with a special focus on those who have been wounded; and the stories of children who have lost parents in war.

NEW WAY TO EARN PROMOTION POINTS

THERE'S a new way to earn promotion points. Skill-based licenses and certificates from civilian sources are worth 10 promotion points for Soldiers in these career fields: adjutant general, air defense artillery, aviation, engineer, ordnance, quartermaster, signal, transportation, Army

Medical Department and public affairs.

Promotable specialists and sergeants can receive up to 50 promotion points in technical certificates. For the points to count toward promotion, Soldiers must have at least 20. The new incentive encourages



Soldiers who don't want to spend time and money earning college degrees to pursue professional certifications.



For information on credentialing, visit Army Credentialing Opportunities Online at www.cool.army.mil.

Renter's Insurance

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY ►

IMAGINE losing everything in your home. Gone are your furniture, clothes, computer and appliances. Would you have the money to replace it all?

Property owners usually have insurance to cover the structures they live in. But as a renter, it's your responsibility to insure personal belongings within the building. Renter's insurance can help you cover the cost of starting over should the personal items in your home be damaged or lost.

Most rental-insurance policies cover the replacement value of personal property. Some may also cover additional living expenses incurred as a result of the loss, liability coverage should someone get hurt in your residence and legal defense costs.

If renter's insurance is right for you, shop around for the best deals and policies. You can determine the amount of insurance you need by taking inventory of your property and estimating its value. Be sure the company you choose will reimburse you for the replacement value of your property rather than the property's current value, which is usually lower. Discounts may be available if you have more than one policy with the same company.



If you rent or plan to rent, this is for you . . .

Celebrate

SPOUSES HOLD ARMY FAMILY TOGETHER

On **May 7** let your spouse know how much you appreciate his or her courage and strength.

Thank your spouse for accepting the challenges of being part of a military family. During deployments they serve as both mothers and fathers. They also serve as community leaders, helping themselves and each other through separations and frequent moves.



Call your local Army Community Service for local events that will help you honor your military spouse.



◀ TESTING NEW GOGGLES

FOR years, the Army has used image-intensification and thermal-viewing technologies to improve weapon systems. Now the Army Research Laboratory, part of the Army Materiel Command, is testing prototypes of new goggles that incorporate both technologies.

"Three companies have created prototypes," said Mark Bylan, ARL's project manager for sensors and lasers. Those are being compared to two existing types of goggles, the AN/PVS-7 binocular and the AN/PVS-14 monocular.

Various units have tested the prototypes to determine how well they can help Soldiers detect targets in various environments.

— *Army News Service*



◀ HIMARS BRINGS FASTER FIRES

EARLY-entry forces are a step closer to quicker delivery of field artillery fire to the battlefield, thanks to capabilities of a new rocket launcher — the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System.

In a recent evaluation of HIMARS, the system was loaded on a C-130 transport at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., and flown to Fort Sill, Okla., 650 nautical miles away. "The aircraft landed on a dirt airstrip that replicated a 'worst-case-scenario' landing strip," said COL James Heverin, Training and Doctrine Command's system manager for rocket and missile systems.

A three-man crew offloaded the system, which was mounted on a Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles truck, inflated its tires, attached antennas, established radio communication and activated the fire-control panel. Less than 15 minutes after the C-130 touched the ground, HIMARS received a fire mission and proceeded to fire a volley of six practice rounds.

The timed events were part of a joint-service effort to deliver "early-entry and light-forces" protection and firepower to troops on the ground, Heverin said.

HIMARS carries six rockets or one missile and can fire the entire family of Multiple Launch Rocket System munitions.

Soldiers from XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, N.C., will be the first to receive HIMARS, in March 2005, said LTC Darryl Colvin, product manager for field artillery launchers.

The Army will purchase nearly 900 launchers, enough for 45 field artillery battalions. Weighing less than its M-270 launcher counterpart, the newly developed HIMARS is in line with the Army's vision of a lighter, more lethal force, Heverin said. — *Fred W. Baker III*

AN ARMORY OF SIMULATORS ▶

ON May 10, 2003, Vermont National Guard officials dedicated the Readiness and Regional Technology Center at Norwich University in Northfield, Vt.

The \$8.8 million building has more than 88,000 square feet of space and houses the headquarters of the 86th Armored Brigade, weapon and command-post simulators, and the Air and Army Information Operations Schools.

The weapon simulators include an engagement skills trainer, JANUS system and an M1 Abrams Full-crew Interactive Skills Trainer.

The EST allows Soldiers to "fire" virtually all small arms, including the 9mm pistol and the 50-cal. machine gun. It provides individual marksmanship, collective squad-level training and "shoot-don't shoot" scenarios.

Trainees "fight" against "enemy troops" that are projected on a screen. The system then records the number and type of rounds fired, and their accuracy.

The JANUS system provides battle-staff training for brigade, battalion, company and platoon operations. Soldiers receive immediate feedback on their tactical plans as they fight a virtual enemy. The simulator provides an almost infinite combination of virtual terrain, weather and digitized enemy forces.

The M1 Abrams trainer offers a wide range of scenarios. And it also tracks "fired" tank rounds and provides summaries of



target hits for commanders and tank crews.

Additionally, a simulations network consisting of four M1 trainers, one M2 Bradley trainer and a Guard Unit Armory Device Full-Crew Interactive Simulation Trainer, GUARDFIST-II, will be installed by mid-July.

GUARDFIST-II will provide simulated battlefield scenarios for the training of field artillery forward- observer tasks. — *BG Eugene A. Sevi, chief of staff, Vermont Army National Guard*

◀ CARE-FREE CAMPING

ONE-PERSON camping may be easier and more enjoyable than ever before, according to representatives of Kamp-Rite, Inc., distributors of Tent Cot.

Strong enough to support 300 lbs., Tent Cot weighs less than 18 lbs., and folds to fit into a thin carrying case.

When it's open, the tent is three feet high, 2.5 feet wide and seven feet long. Its legs keep occupants about a foot off the ground, away from insects, rodents and snakes, and the cot can be converted to a lounge chair. — *Kamp-Rite, Inc.*

NOTE: This product is featured as something that may be of interest for recreational use and is not a product endorsement.

Managing Major

Story by John Randt

THE new Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, formerly the Military Traffic Management Command, in Alexandria, Va., has been busy over the past few months planning and implementing the largest movement of American military equipment since World War II.

In all, elements of eight of 10 Army divisions were moved to or from Iraq and Afghanistan. Large shipments of Navy, Air

John Randt is the public affairs officer for the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command in Alexandria, Va.

(Continued on page 46)

Vehicles belonging to the 1st Cavalry Division await loading aboard the sealift ship USNS *Pollux* at Corpus Christi, Texas.

Movements





MAJ Doug Athey of the Army Reserve's New Orleans-based 1192nd Transportation Brigade describes loading operations aboard *Pollux*.



Under rainy skies, longshoremen secure vehicles aboard *Pollux* for the journey to Iraq.

Following these major troop movements, U.S. troop strength in the two campaigns was to drop from 130,000 to 105,000.

Force and Marine Corps equipment were moved as well, SDDC officials said.

The move is a "daunting" challenge, said SDDC commander MG Ann Dunwoody. "We have to synchronize deploying and redeploying units. We have our work cut out for us. We know where the challenges lie. And we have the people to do the job."

Dunwoody stressed the importance of industry partners and their knowledge and contacts to meet the military mission requirements.

"Our focus is to support the men and women still deployed. That's our number-one priority," she said.

The movements, primarily involving shipments from East Coast and Gulf Coast ports to and from Kuwait, were to involve as many as 300 vessel movements, said SDDC

director of operations BG Mark Scheid.

Scheid said military and industry synchronization of the movements was

critical. Unit equipment will primarily move aboard Military Sealift Command charter ships. Some 16,000 large cargo containers will move aboard American flag vessels.

Ash Shuayba will be the primary Kuwaiti point of entry. And SDDC's goal was to load to the maximum, said Scheid.

The main domestic shipping ports for the movements are at Corpus Christi and Beaumont, Texas; Charleston, S.C., and Philadelphia, Pa. Other ports were also being considered, Scheid said.

Many Army units have been on the move in the massive deployments and redeployments. Units that recently returned to home stations include the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Ky.; the 4th Infantry Div. from Fort Hood, Texas; the 1st Armored Div. from Wiesbaden, Germany; the 2nd Armd. Cavalry Regiment from Fort Polk, La.; the 2nd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Div., from Fort Bragg, N.C.; and the 173rd Abn. Bde. from Vicenza, Italy.

At the same time, SDDC helped deploy elements of the 1st Inf. Div.

from Würzburg, Germany; the 1st Cav. Div. from Fort Hood; the 25th Inf. Div. from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and a Marine air-ground task force from the 1st Marine Div. at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

While most units were headed to Iraq, the 25th Inf. Div.'s 3rd Bde. Combat Team and a Marine Corps battalion were to succeed elements of the 10th Mountain Div. in Afghanistan.

Several National Guard units also deployed, including the 30th Inf. Bde. from North Carolina, the 81st Inf. Bde. from Washington and the 39th Inf. Bde. from Arkansas.

In December 2003 SDDC deployed the 2nd Inf. Div.'s 3rd Bde. from Fort Lewis, Wash., the first unit equipped with Stryker armored vehicles to deploy overseas.

Following these major troop movements, U.S. troop strength in the two campaigns was to drop from 130,000 to 105,000, Army officials said. ■

► In all, 15 ships were required to move the 1st Cavalry Division's vehicles and equipment to Iraq.





Pollux's onboard cranes are capable of lifting vehicles and other large items.

With the cargo secured below decks, longshoremen secure one of *Pollux's* hatch covers in preparation for the vessel's departure.



Officer Commissions Brother Via Long-Distance TV

It took a long-distance video teleconference crossing four time zones, but **CPT Johnny Perez** was able to not only see his brother receive his commission as an Army officer, he also read the oath that made it happen.

Perez, of the 172nd Support Battalion at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, paced anxiously while waiting for connections to be made from Fort Wainwright, through Fort Richardson, Alaska, and on to Fort Benning, Ga. His younger brother, **2LT Anthony Perez**, was waiting there after graduating from Officer Candidate School.


Seeing each other onscreen, the two men chatted with a few-second delay as their voices were beamed across the U.S.

The brothers then raised their right hands and completed the oath. Afterward, the senior Perez watched as his younger brother received his first rank insignia, which Johnny Perez had once worn.

The two men, and their younger brother, **Michael**, all first-generation Americans, were educated by the sacrifices of their parents, who moved to the U.S. from Chile in the early 1970s. Now all three are serving in the Army — the senior Perez on active duty at Fort Wainwright, the two younger siblings in the New Jersey Army National Guard.

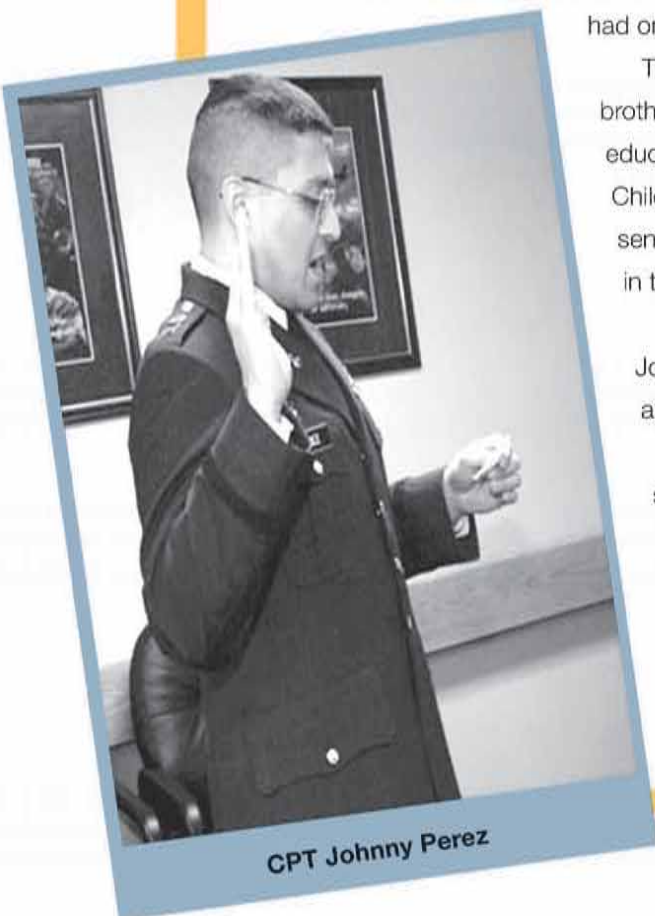
"Anthony has always had a lot of heart in everything he does," said Johnny Perez. "As a child, he was my role model in school; he was always on the honor roll with his studies.

"I am very proud of my brother and wish I could be there," he said. "But due to military necessity, I commissioned him via VTC. I hope he accomplishes whatever he desires after OCS."

The younger Perez hopes to attend the Medical Service Officer Basic Course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. 



2LT Anthony Perez



CPT Johnny Perez

MSG John Pennell, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, Public Affairs Office

SERVING A NATION AT WAR



WWW.ARMY.MIL

THE OFFICIAL UNITED STATES ARMY HOMEPAGE

SERVING NEARLY FOUR MILLION VISITORS PER MONTH FROM MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED
AND FORTY COUNTRIES CONNECTING YOU TO THE ARMY 24 HOURS A DAY EVERYDAY





Road to the Olympics

PFC Tina George



Photo by Tim Hipps

PFC Tina George was the Army's 2002 Female Athlete of the Year. The Cleveland Heights, Ohio, native is one of the favorites to make the 2004 U.S. Olympic Women's Wrestling Team. George was the Gold Medal winner in the women's wrestling 121-pound freestyle division during the 2003 Pan American Games held at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

WCAP is one of 50 morale, welfare and recreation programs the Army provides soldiers and families worldwide through the U.S. Army Community & Family Support Center.

